

REMARKS

Claims 36-44 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 36-39 and 41-44 have been amended to better clarify the instant invention and claims 45-46 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. No new matter has been entered.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections are requested in view of the instant amendments and the accompanying remarks.

Amendment Fully Supported by the Original Disclosure

The above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. For example, support for amending independent claims 36 and 41 to replace "sources" with - -wireless telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information- - and - -wireless telecommunication service provider database stations- -, is provided in page 5, lines 1-31 and page 6, lines 1-21. Further, reference to service provider "databases" and "database stations" is also found, for example, on page 3, lines 28-31 and page 5, lines 12-14. Claims 36-39 and 41-44 have been amended merely for formal matters that included grammatical and antecedent issues. Further, new claims 45 and 46 are supported at the bottom of page 5 and the first full paragraph of page 6 of Application's disclosure.

Acknowledgement of the Drawings

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgment that Applicant's drawings are accepted.

Examiner Interview Summary

On January 23, 2007 Applicants' Attorney conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner Bhattacharya. During the course of this interview it was agreed that Applicants' claims would be further amended over those presented previously by adding further limitations directed to wireless telecommunication service provider "databases" and "database stations". Examiner Bhattacharya agreed that this amendment should be effective in addressing the outstanding current rejections under 35 USC 103(a).

Rejection Under 35 USC 103

Claims 36, 37, 39, 41 and 44 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over LaPorta (US 5974300) in view of Freeny (US 2002/0187779). More specifically, the Patent Office states that:

Regarding claims 36, 39, 41 and 44, LaPorta discloses a computer implemented system for providing a directory of contact information associated with wireless communications devices (in cellular network 24, including a network station adapted to carry out soft-ware based instructions in the generation of a database system of the contact information for wireless communication devices, a contact information gathering system 30 adapted to implement a process to gather from one or more sources the contact information for one or more wireless communications devices, the contact information gathering system 30 including means for the network station to interface with one or more wireless communications service provider stations 24 to obtain contact information for one or more wireless communications devices, and an exchange system 14 which receives from said information gathering system and transmits the contact information for one or more parties upon request. See Fig. 1, and col. 4 lines 44-67.

LaPorta fails to disclose wired means in the contact information gathering system for the network station to interface with wireless communications service provider stations.

However, in an analogous art, Freeny discloses a communication authorization system that includes a contact gathering system 50, 60 that is connected to wireless communications service provider stations 40 through wired lines. See Fig. 1 and paragraph [0050]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of LaPorta by including wired means to interface between the contact gathering system and the wireless communications service provider stations, as taught by Freeny, for the purpose of conveniently incorporating the system in an existing wireline environment, such as that in an office or hotel building.

In response to this rejection, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more completely distinguish the teaching of the cited prior art. More specifically, Claim 1 has been currently amended to recite "a contact information gathering system adapted to implement a process to gather, from one or more wireless telecommunications service provider databases of subscriber information, the contact information for one or more wireless communications devices, the contact information gathering system including wired means ...". Neither the LaPorta reference, or LaPorta taken in combination with the cited Freeny reference,

teaches the gathering of wireless contact information from a wireless telecommunications service provider database. As is discussed in the Background of the Invention section of the subject patent application, wireless telecommunications service providers do not, at present, provide wireless contact information upon request. As indicated this is due, at least in part, to the fact that only for wireless systems is the receiving party charged by the service provider for incoming contacts. Nothing in the cited references discusses the acquisition of wireless contact information from wireless service providers, and the incorporation of this contact information into a wireless directory which can be accessed by a party seeking wireless contact information. The acquisition of wireless contact information, through wired means, from databases of subscriber information maintained by wireless communication device service providers enables the accurate and confidential retrieval of such contact information in a manner which is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

As to Claims 38 and 43, the teaching of the cited Dreke et al. reference (US 2002/0035594) does not cure the deficiency identified above in connection with the Laporta/Freeny combination. Similarly, as to Claim 40, the cited Thorner et al. (WO98/56158) fails to cure the deficiencies discussed above in connection with the rejection of Claims 36, 37, 39, 41, 42 and 44.

New Claims are Believed Allowable

Applicant's newly submitted claims 45-46 dependent from independent claims 36 and 41, respectively and are allowable over the art of record at least for the reason for depending from an allowable base claim. Applicant submits that Laporta, Freeny, Dreke et al. and/or Thorner et al. either alone or in combination, nor any prior art document of record teaches or suggests the combination of features recited in the independent claims 36 and 41. Further, Applicant submits that new claims 45-46 is allowable at least for the reason that these claims depend from allowable base claim and because these claims recite additional features that further define the present invention. Therefore, Applicant requests an indication of allowance in the next Official Action.

Summary of the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment

In the instant Notice, the Examiner has required that the "Claims" section of Applicants' October 5, 2006 response be corrected to include the correct numbering of the new claims 45-46. By the present amendment, Applicant submits that the Examiner's requirement has been met and requests that the Examiner now reconsider and withdraw the pending rejections in light of the amendments and Applicant notes that, Applicants' remarks of June 12, 2006, which has been incorporated herewith, and indicate the allowability of the instant application and the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious Applicant's invention, as recited in each of claims 36-44 and new claims 45-46. The applied reference of record has been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
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